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# Labour Force, Australia

Headline estimates of employment, unemployment, underemployment, participation and hours worked from the monthly Labour Force Survey

Reference period August 2023

Released 14/09/2023

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## Key statistics

In trend terms, in August 2023:

- unemployment rate remained at 3.7%.
- participation rate increased to 67.0%.
- employment increased to 14,096,100.

- employment to population ratio remained at 64.5%.
- underemployment rate increased to 6.5%.
- monthly hours worked increased to 1,954 million.

In seasonally adjusted terms, in August 2023:

- unemployment rate remained at 3.7%.
- participation rate increased to 67.0%.
- employment increased to 14,107,900.
- employment to population ratio increased to 64.5%.
- underemployment rate increased to 6.6%.
- monthly hours worked decreased to 1,941 million.
- full-time employment increased by 2,800 to 9,849,800 people.
- part-time employment increased by 62,100 to 4,258,100 people.

## Key statistics - Trend

|                                  | Jul-2023      | Aug-2023      | Monthly change | Monthly change (%) | Yearly change | Yearly change (%) |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Employed people                  | 14,067,800    | 14,096,100    | 28,300         | 0.2%               | 399,700       | 2.9%              |
| Unemployed people                | 532,900       | 539,700       | 6,800          | 1.3%               | 43,500        | 8.8%              |
| Unemployment rate                | 3.7%          | 3.7%          | 0.0 pts        | na                 | 0.2 pts       | na                |
| Underemployment rate             | 6.4%          | 6.5%          | 0.0 pts        | na                 | 0.5 pts       | na                |
| Participation rate               | 66.9%         | 67.0%         | 0.0 pts        | na                 | 0.3 pts       | na                |
| Monthly hours worked in all jobs | 1,951 million | 1,954 million | 3 million      | 0.2%               | 86 million    | 4.6%              |

## Key statistics - Seasonally adjusted

|                   | Jul-2023   | Aug-2023   | Monthly change | Monthly change (%) | Yearly change | Yearly change (%) |
|-------------------|------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Employed people   | 14,043,000 | 14,107,900 | 64,900         | 0.5%               | 410,700       | 3.0%              |
| Unemployed people | 543,200    | 540,500    | -2,600         | -0.5%              | 42,600        | 8.5%              |

|                                  | Jul-2023      | Aug-2023      | Monthly change | Monthly change (%) | Yearly change | Yearly change (%) |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Unemployment rate                | 3.7%          | 3.7%          | 0.0 pts        | na                 | 0.2 pts       | na                |
| Underemployment rate             | 6.4%          | 6.6%          | 0.2 pts        | na                 | 0.6 pts       | na                |
| Participation rate               | 66.9%         | 67.0%         | 0.1 pts        | na                 | 0.3 pts       | na                |
| Monthly hours worked in all jobs | 1,950 million | 1,941 million | -9 million     | -0.5%              | 68 million    | 3.7%              |

Estimates of changes throughout this release are calculated using un-rounded level estimates and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded level estimates.

For definitions of labour statistics used in this publication, please refer to [Glossary of Labour Force, Australia methodology \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023#glossary\)](#).

## Survey impacts and changes

### Articles and other information

As Labour Force hours worked data have returned to more usual patterns, the ABS ceased publishing the pandemic-related article 'insights into hours worked' with the April 2023 publication, but has continued to publish data cubes EM2a and EM2b in [Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release\)](#). From the September 2023 release and onwards, the ABS will revert to only releasing these two data cubes in [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release\)](#).

## Quarterly rebenchmarking of labour force statistics

The ABS has revised the original Labour Force series from July 2021 to reflect the latest available preliminary and final estimates of the Estimated Resident Population. This quarterly process ensures that the Labour Force series promptly reflect any change in population trends and minimises the size of revisions that can occur when the series are rebenchmarking following each Census of Population and Housing.

In response to COVID-19 related changes in travel, the ABS has been revising preliminary Net Overseas Migration estimates more frequently. Net Overseas Migration estimates are a component of population estimates, from which Labour Force benchmarks are produced. These revisions have been incorporated into the quarterly rebenchmarking revisions. For more information, please refer to '[Net Overseas Migration revisions in Labour Force benchmarks during COVID-19 \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/apr-2020#covid-19-impacts-and-changes\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/apr-2020#covid-19-impacts-and-changes)'.

The usual resident civilian population in June 2023 was revised down by around 0.1% (around 15,500 people).

Revisions to original series also result in revisions to seasonally adjusted series.

The current Labour Force population benchmarks are derived from estimated resident population (ERP) based on the 2021 Census (preliminary rebased ERP).

In the November 2023 publication, to be released on 14 December 2023, the Labour Force population benchmarks will be updated to reflect the latest estimated resident population (ERP) based on the 2021 Census (final rebased ERP). This is a regular 5-yearly rebasing process which follows each Census, and ensures the Labour Force estimates are benchmarked to the most recent population information. This process will result in revisions to Labour Force estimates going back to 2016. This follows a similar process to that undertaken in 2018.

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## New Labour Force Survey sample commences in September

Since July 2018, the Labour Force Survey sample has been selected using information collected in the 2016 Census of Population and Housing. The effectiveness of the Labour Force sample is maintained by updating it with information from the most recent Census. The ABS will utilise information from the 2021 Census for sample selection with the new sample phased in over eight months from September 2023.

Further information on the new sample will be provided in the September 2023 release on 19 October.

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## Upcoming improvements to Labour Force estimation method

As part of ongoing improvements to the estimation method for Labour Force statistics, the ABS will make some minor changes in how it accounts for some relatively small population groups within the sample.

There are various small groups, which together account for less than 2 per cent of the overall sample, who are more difficult to survey each month, contribute a higher degree of underlying sampling variability, and for whom there is more reliable auxiliary data sources (e.g. regular administrative data). This includes some people who don't live in private dwellings and some people who live in remote and very remote parts of Australia.

ABS analysis has shown that estimation models that draw on auxiliary data for these groups produce a better quality contribution for them to aggregate Labour Force statistics.

This minor change will result in a small improvement in the quality of estimates, but there will be minimal effect on headline Labour Force estimates. The national participation rate is expected to change by less than 0.1 percentage point and the unemployment rate will remain unchanged.

In order to minimise the number of changes and associated revisions, these small estimation changes will be implemented at the same time as the next quarterly population rebenchmarking process (with November 2023, to be released on 14 December 2023), which will also coincide with the major rebenchmarking related to the final rebasing of population estimates to the 2021 Census.

In making these changes, the estimation method will be backcast to the commencement of the most recent sample selection, which was introduced in July 2018.

Further information will be provided in the October 2023 release on 16 November.

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## Enhanced regional labour market data

The ABS is developing improved monthly regional labour market statistics. More information on this, including new illustrative estimates and methodology, can be found in the [Information Paper \(/statistics/detailed-methodology-information/information-papers/improving-sa4-level-estimates-labour-force-survey-using-administrative-data-models\)](/statistics/detailed-methodology-information/information-papers/improving-sa4-level-estimates-labour-force-survey-using-administrative-data-models) that was released on 27 June 2023.

The modelled SA4 level labour force estimates will be implemented into the regular set of Labour Force Survey outputs, and be published on a monthly basis. The first monthly release of the modelled SA4 estimates is expected to be published with the January 2024 [Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release\)](/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release), in February 2024.

The modelled estimates will initially be added into [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release\)](/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release) around a week after it is first published.

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## Survey response and timeline

The August Labour Force Survey was run in respect of the two weeks from Sunday 30 July to Saturday 12 August, and collected over the period from Sunday 6 August to Saturday 26 August.

The ABS would like to thank Australians for their continued support in responding to our surveys, given how critically important this information is.

## Reference and Enumeration Dates

| Publication | Start of<br>Reference Week | End of<br>Reference Week | Start of<br>Enumeration | End of<br>Enumeration  |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Jul-23      | 2nd July 2023              | 15th July 2023           | 9th July 2023           | 29th July 2023         |
| Aug-23      | 30th July 2023             | 12th August 2023         | 6th August 2023         | 26th August 2023       |
| Sep-23      | 3rd September 2023         | 16th September<br>2023   | 10th September<br>2023  | 30th September<br>2023 |
| Oct-23      | 1st October 2023           | 14th October 2023        | 8th October 2023        | 28th October 2023      |
| Nov-23      | 29th October 2023          | 11th November<br>2023    | 5th November 2023       | 25th November<br>2023  |
| Dec-23      | 26th November<br>2023      | 9th December 2023        | 3rd December 2023       | 20th December<br>2023  |

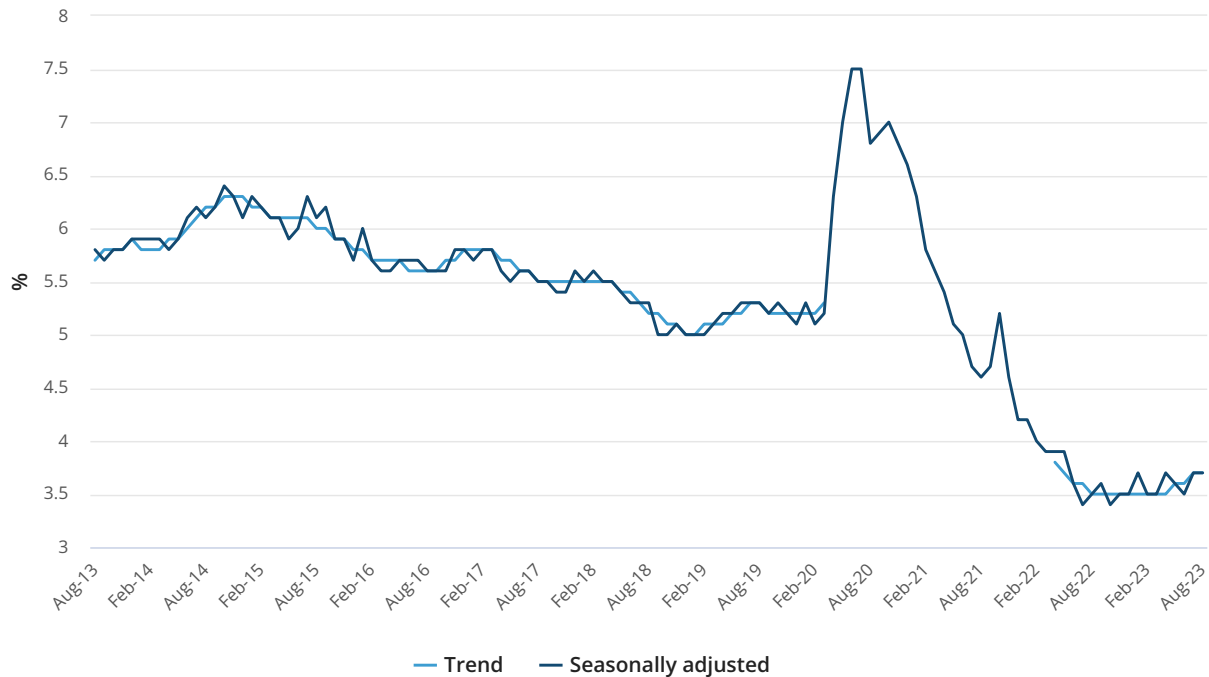
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## Unemployment

In trend terms, in August 2023:

- unemployment rate remained at 3.7%.
- unemployed people increased by 6,800 to 539,700.
- youth unemployment rate remained at 8.2%.

## Unemployment rate



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, August 2023 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/Aug-2023\)](#).

## Employment

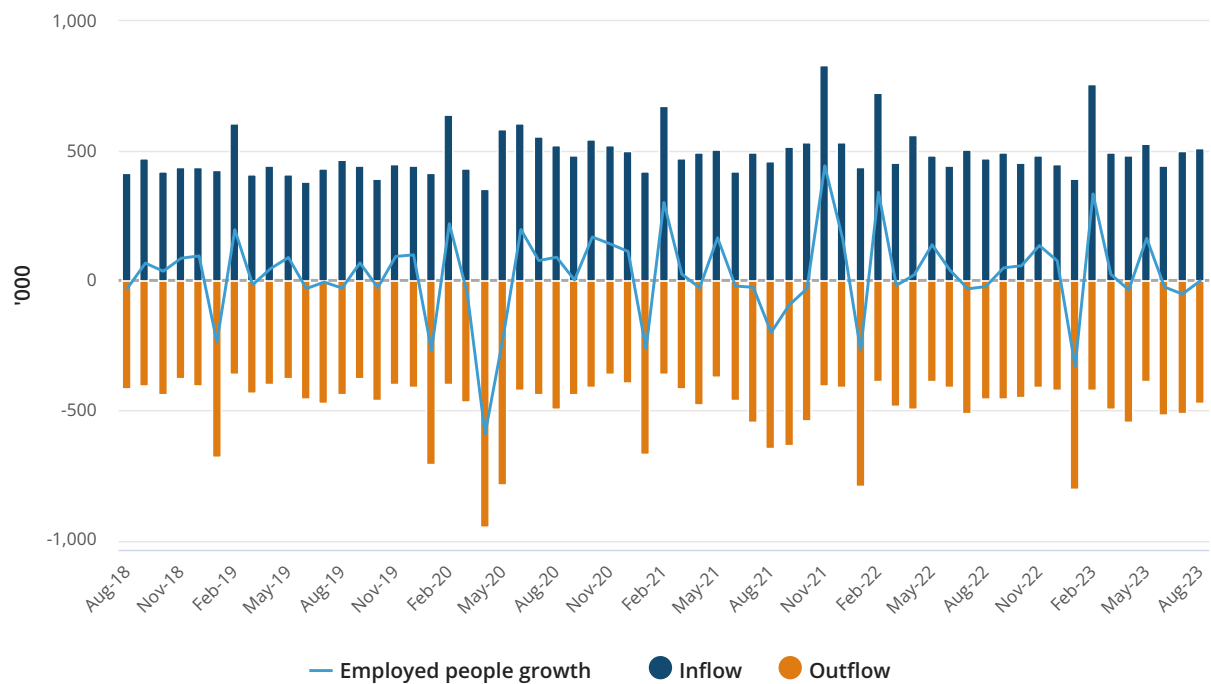
In trend terms, in August 2023, employment increased by 28,300 people (0.2%) to 14,096,100 people.

## Flows into and out of employment

Flows into and out of employment are extensive and are based on the net matched sample of original employment growth between two consecutive months (around 80% of the sample). The (net) sum of the inflows and outflows does not necessarily equal the 'net' employment growth.

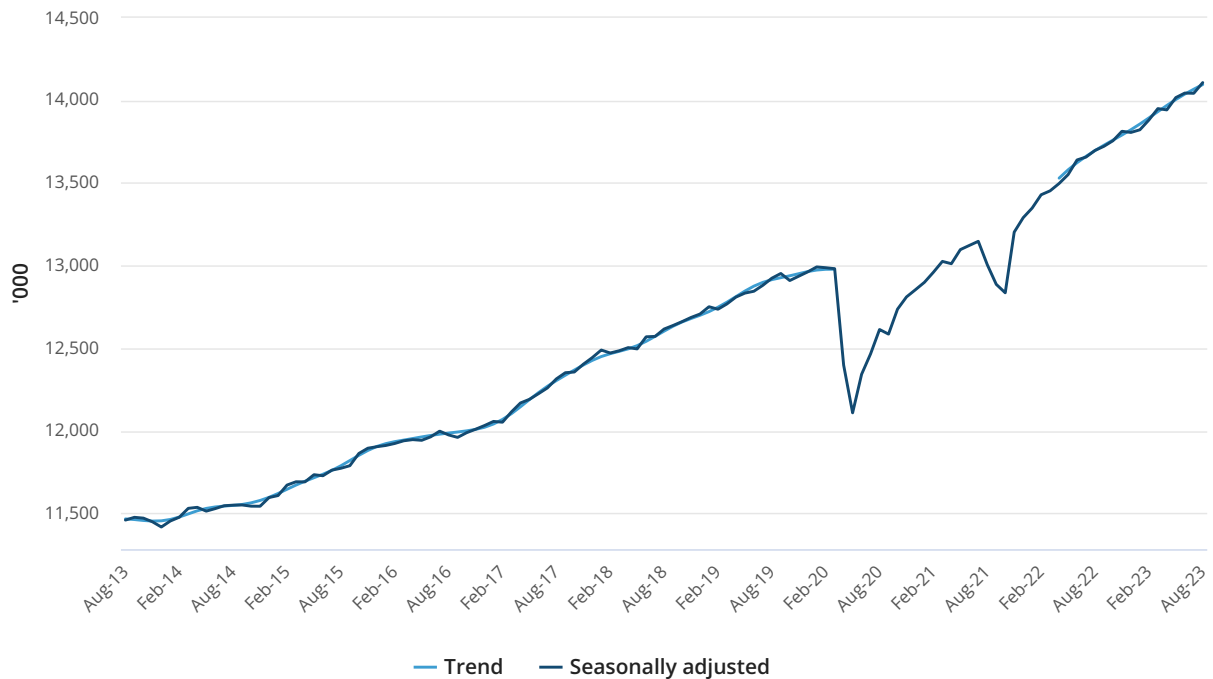
For August 2023, the net change in the number of employed people is the result of around 513,000 people entering employment (i.e. they were not employed in July but were employed in August), while around 467,000 people left employment (i.e. they were employed in July but not employed in August). This contrasts with July 2023, where around 500,000 people entered employment and around 511,000 people left employment.

## Monthly inflows, outflows and employment growth, Original





## Employed people



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, August 2023 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/Aug-2023\)](#).

## Full-time and part-time employment

In trend terms, in August 2023:

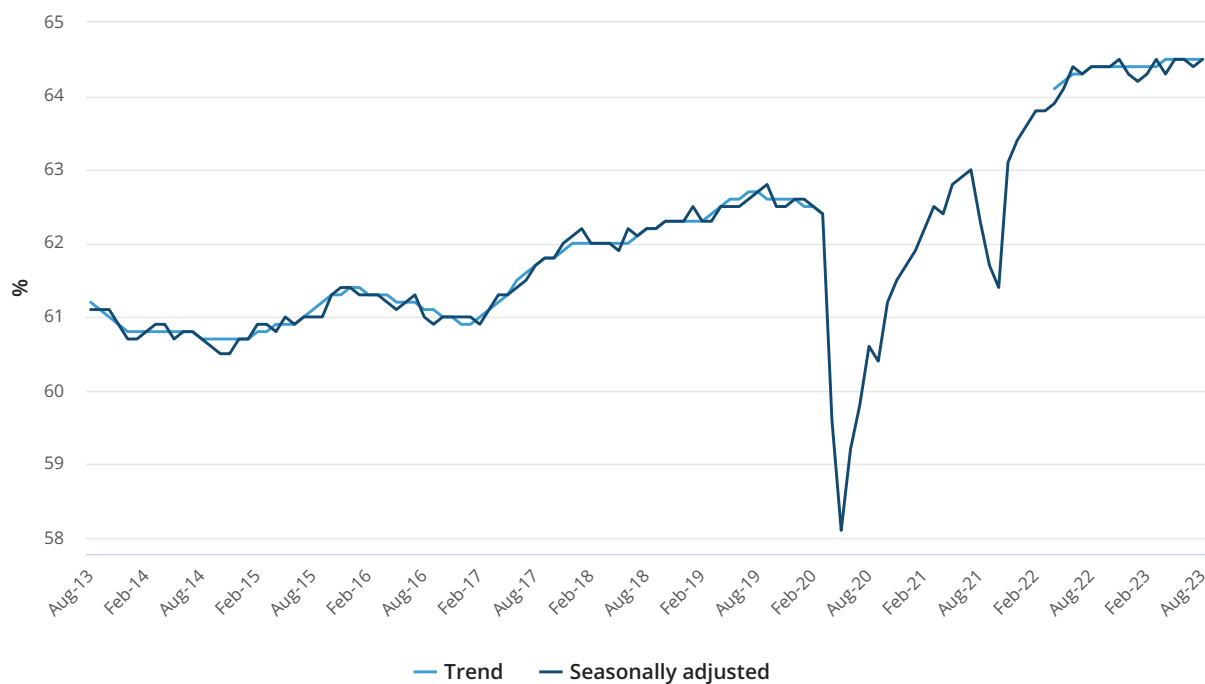
- full-time employment increased by 14,000 to 9,878,000 people, and part-time employment increased by 14,300 to 4,218,100 people.
- part-time share of employment was 29.9%.

## Employment-to-population ratio

In trend terms, in August 2023, the employment-to-population ratio remained at 64.5%.

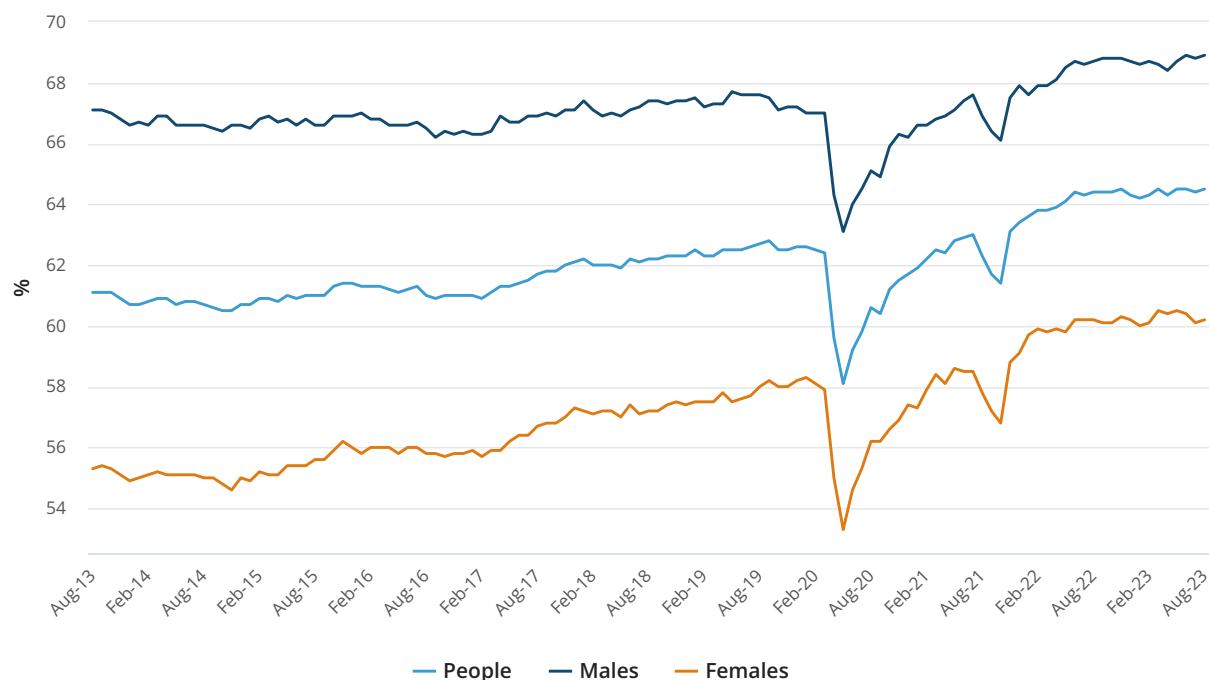
The employment-to-population ratio provides a measure of employment relative to the size of the population.

## Employment-to-population ratio



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, August 2023 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023\)](#).

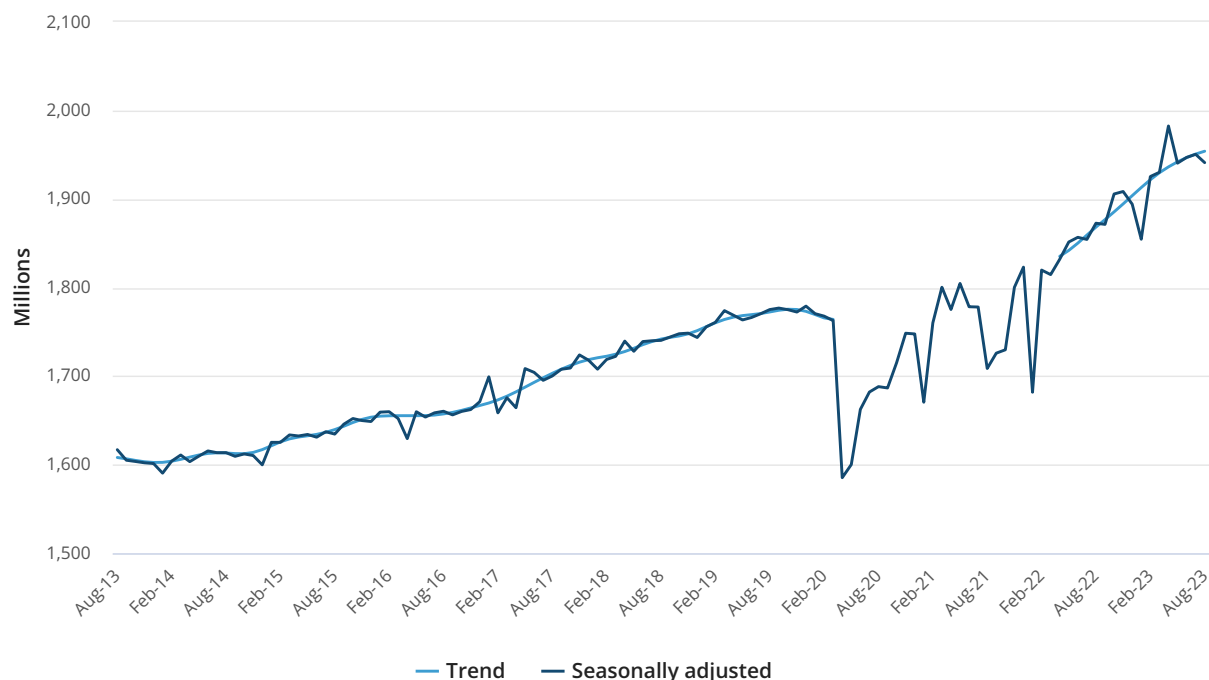
## Employment-to-population ratio, Seasonally adjusted



## Hours worked

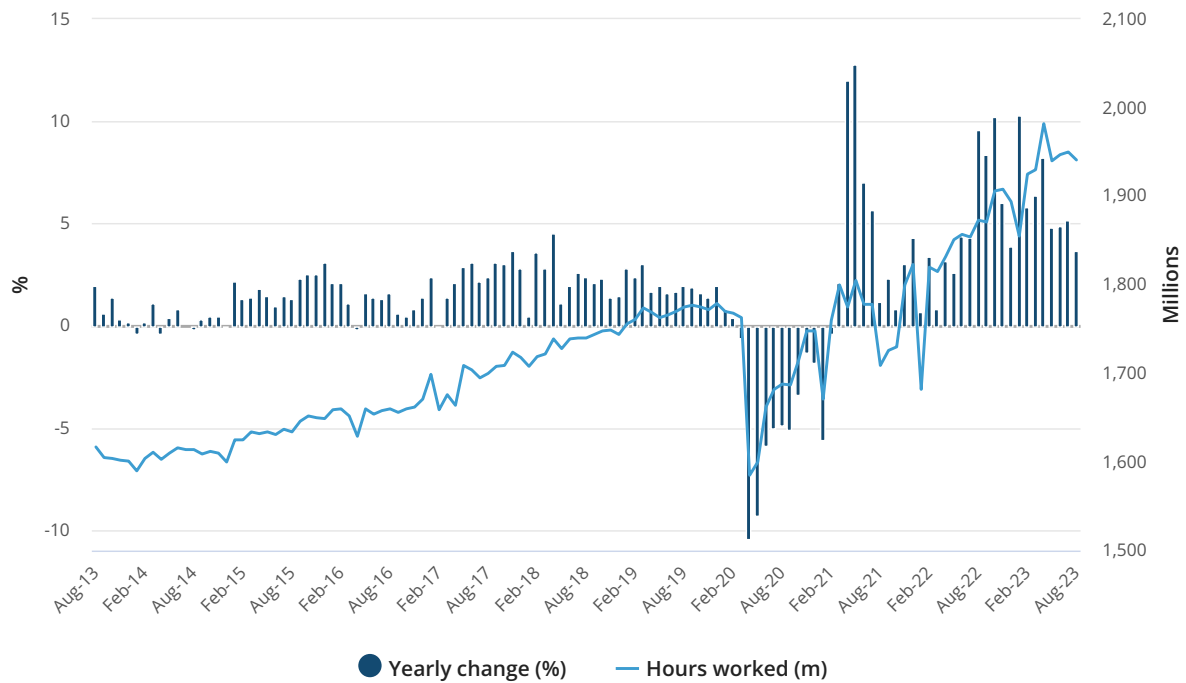
In trend terms, in August 2023, monthly hours worked in all jobs increased by 3.3 million hours (0.2%) to 1,954 million hours.

## Monthly hours worked in all jobs



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, August 2023 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023\)](#).

## Monthly hours worked in all jobs, Seasonally adjusted

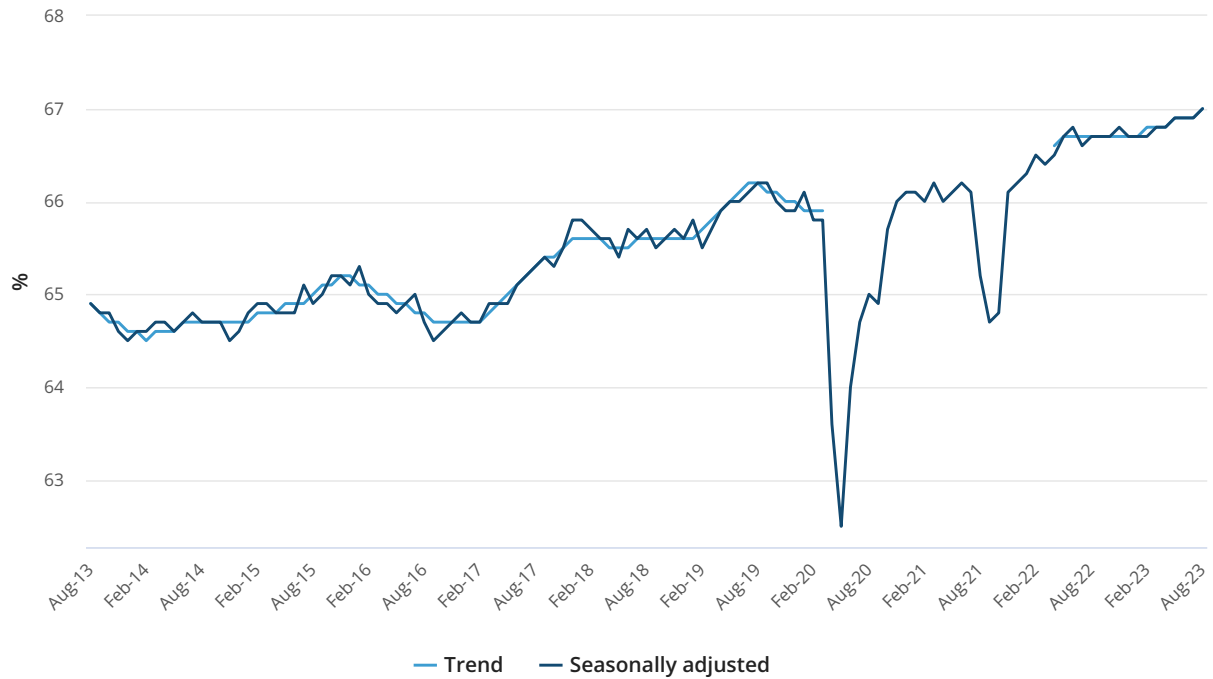


## Participation

In trend terms, in August 2023, the participation rate:

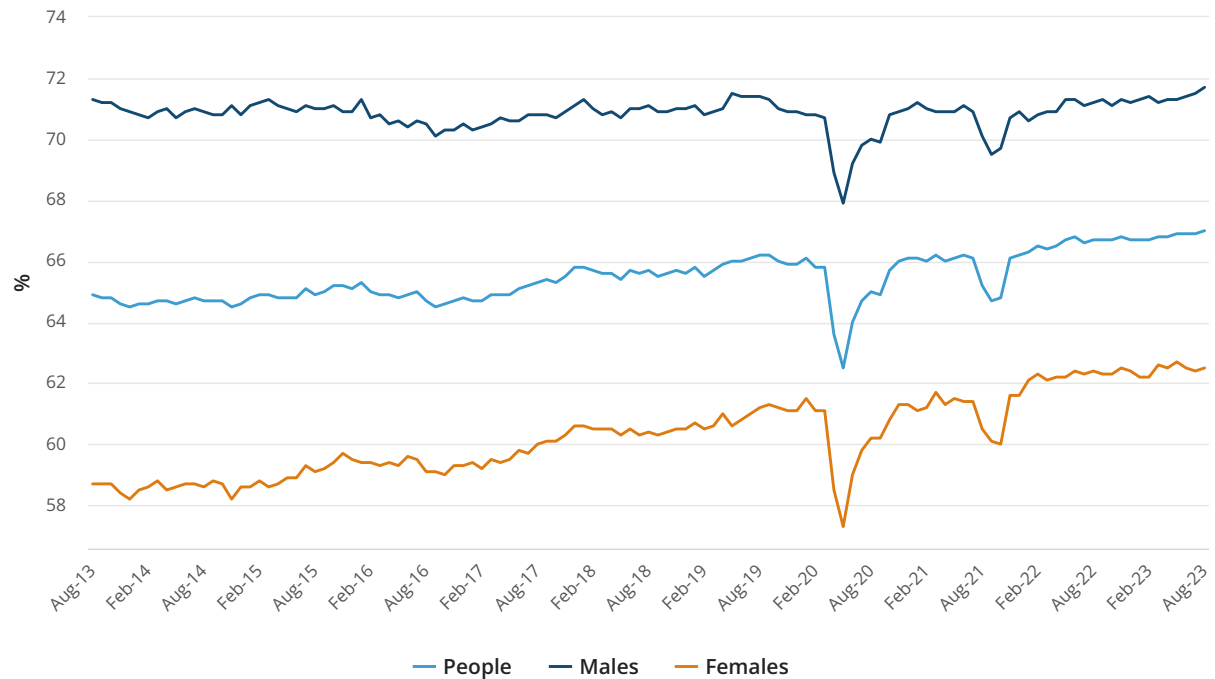
- increased to 67.0%.
- increased to 71.6% for men and remained at 62.5% for women.

## Participation rate



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, August 2023 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023\)](#).

## Participation rate, Seasonally adjusted

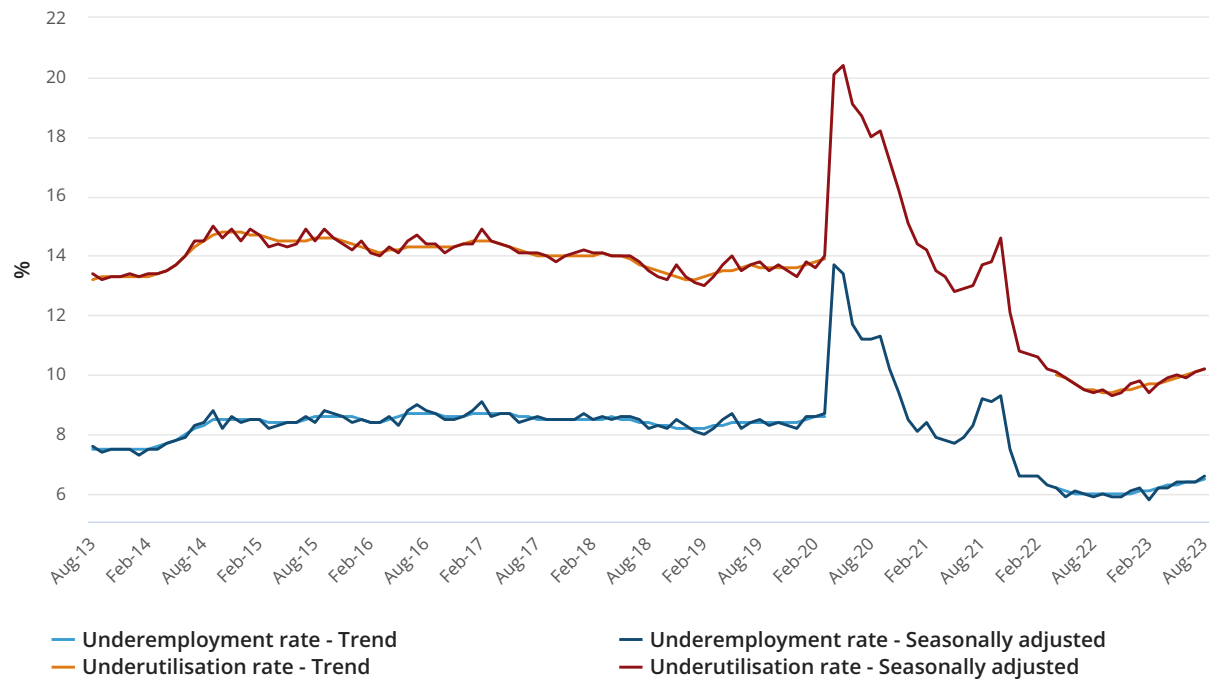


## Underemployment

In trend terms, in August 2023:

- underemployment rate increased to 6.5%.
- underutilisation rate increased to 10.2%.

## Underemployment rate and underutilisation rate



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, August 2023 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023).





|                                       | New South Wales | Victoria | Queensland | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania | Northern Territory |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Unemployment rate                     | 3.3%            | 3.6%     | 4.1%       | 3.9%            | 3.6%              | 4.4%     |                    |
| Unemployment rate - monthly change    | 0.0 pts         | 0.0 pts  | 0.0 pts    | 0.0 pts         | 0.0 pts           | 0.1 pts  |                    |
| Underemployment rate                  | 6.3%            | 6.4%     | 6.8%       | 7.7%            | 6.0%              | 6.9%     |                    |
| Underemployment rate - monthly change | 0.0 pts         | 0.1 pts  | 0.0 pts    | 0.1 pts         | 0.0 pts           | -0.1 pts |                    |
| Participation rate                    | 66.2%           | 67.6%    | 66.5%      | 64.4%           | 69.1%             | 62.8%    |                    |
| Participation rate - monthly change   | 0.0 pts         | 0.0 pts  | 0.0 pts    | 0.0 pts         | 0.0 pts           | 0.0 pts  |                    |

## August 2023 - Seasonally adjusted

|   | New South Wales | Victoria  | Queensland | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania | Northern Territory |
|---|-----------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Employed people                                 | 4,373,700       | 3,653,000 | 2,847,100  | 958,200         | 1,565,900         | 289,200  |                    |
| Employed people - monthly change                | 0.6%            | -0.1%     | 0.5%       | 0.6%            | 0.9%              | 1.1%     |                    |
| Employment to population ratio                  | 64.0%           | 65.1%     | 63.6%      | 62.1%           | 66.7%             | 60.0%    |                    |
| Employment to population ratio - monthly change | 0.2 pts         | -0.2 pts  | 0.1 pts    | 0.3 pts         | 0.4 pts           | 0.6 pts  |                    |
| Unemployment rate                               | 3.6%            | 3.5%      | 4.1%       | 3.6%            | 3.8%              | 4.4%     |                    |
| Unemployment rate - monthly change              | 0.3 pts         | -0.1 pts  | -0.3 pts   | -0.4 pts        | 0.3 pts           | -0.3 pts |                    |
| Underemployment rate                            | 6.4%            | 6.6%      | 7.0%       | 7.9%            | 5.9%              | 6.8%     |                    |
| Underemployment rate - monthly change           | 0.3 pts         | 0.3 pts   | 0.1 pts    | 0.3 pts         | 0.1 pts           | -0.5 pts |                    |
| Participation rate                              | 66.3%           | 67.5%     | 66.4%      | 64.4%           | 69.3%             | 62.8%    |                    |

|  | New<br>South<br>Wales | Victoria | Queensland | South<br>Australia | Western<br>Australia | Tasmania | North<br>Territory |
|--|-----------------------|----------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Participation rate -<br>monthly change | 0.4 pts               | -0.3 pts | -0.1 pts   | 0.0 pts            | 0.7 pts              | 0.4 pts  |                    |

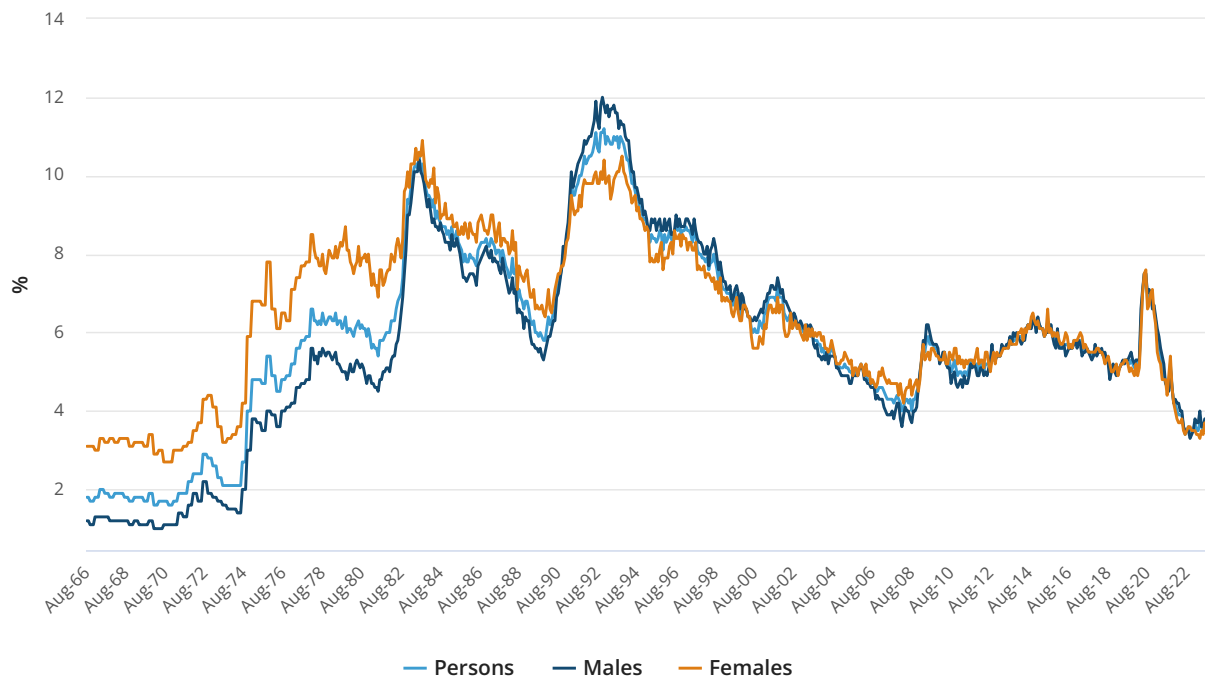
## Historical charts

### Historical charts for employed, unemployed, unemployment rate and participation rate from August 1966 to August 2023

Historical Labour Force estimates of employment, unemployment rate, and participation rate from the historical quarterly and monthly Labour Force Survey.

Prior to 1978 the historical Labour Force Survey was collected quarterly; the current Labour Force Survey is collected monthly. Please refer to the [history of changes \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023#history-of-changes\)](#) to see the differences between the historical and current Labour Force Survey.

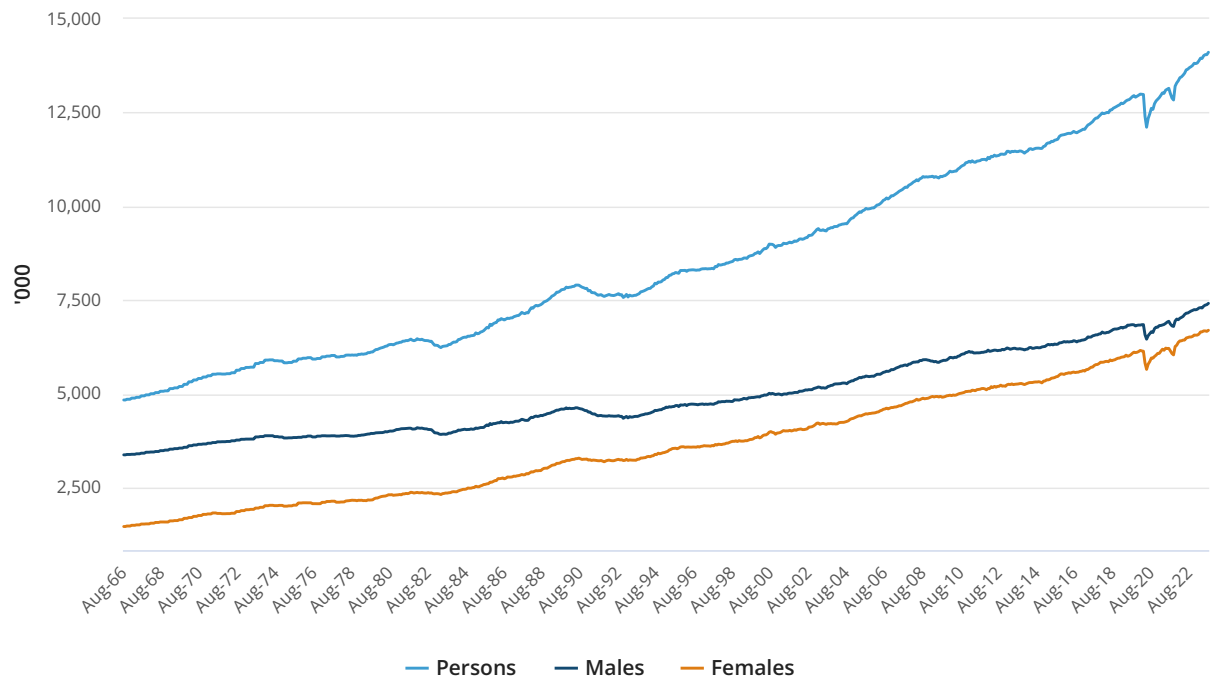
## Unemployment rate, Australia, August 1966 to August 2023, Seasonally adjusted



February 1978 to August 2023 estimated monthly, before February 1978 estimated quarterly

Source: [6204.0.55.001 Labour Force Historical Timeseries, Australia, 1966-1984, Seasonally adjusted estimates of the labour force by sex and marital status - 1966-1977 \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument) and [6202.0 Labour Force, Australia, Table 1 \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads)

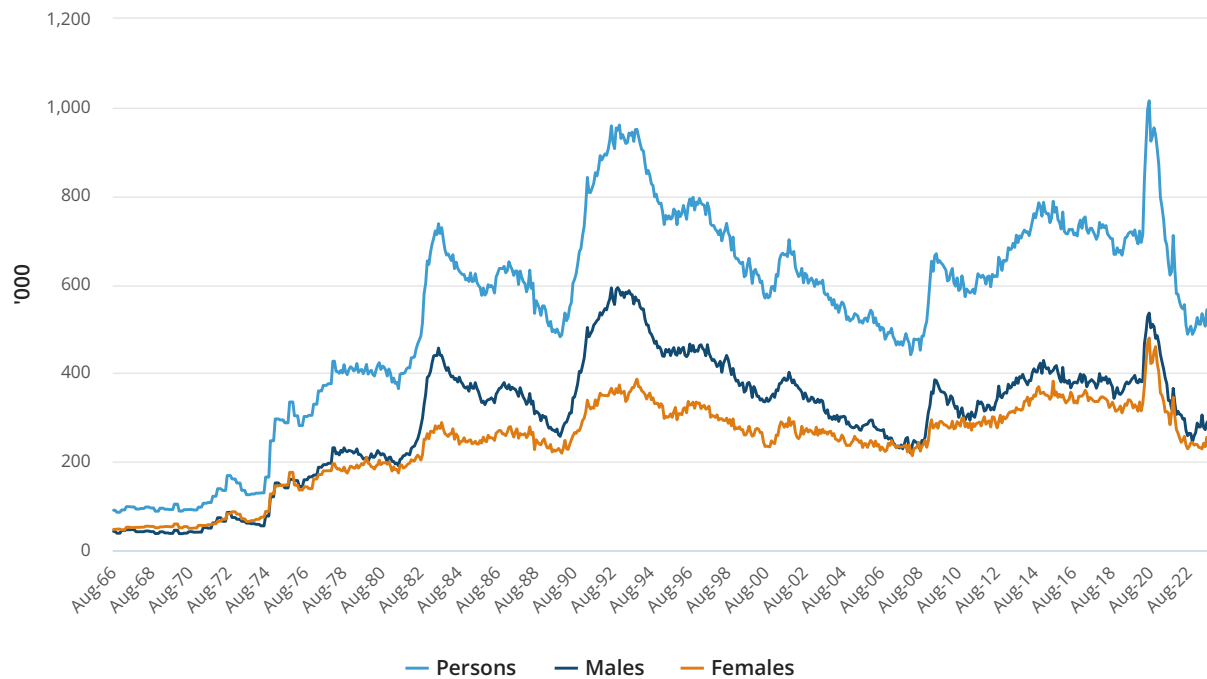
## Employed people, Australia, August 1966 to August 2023, Seasonally adjusted



February 1978 to August 2023 estimated monthly, before February 1978 estimated quarterly

Source: [6204.0.55.001 Labour Force Historical Timeseries, Australia, 1966-1984, Seasonally adjusted estimates of the labour force by sex and marital status - 1966-1977](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument>) and [6202.0 Labour Force, Australia, Table 1](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads) ([/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads))

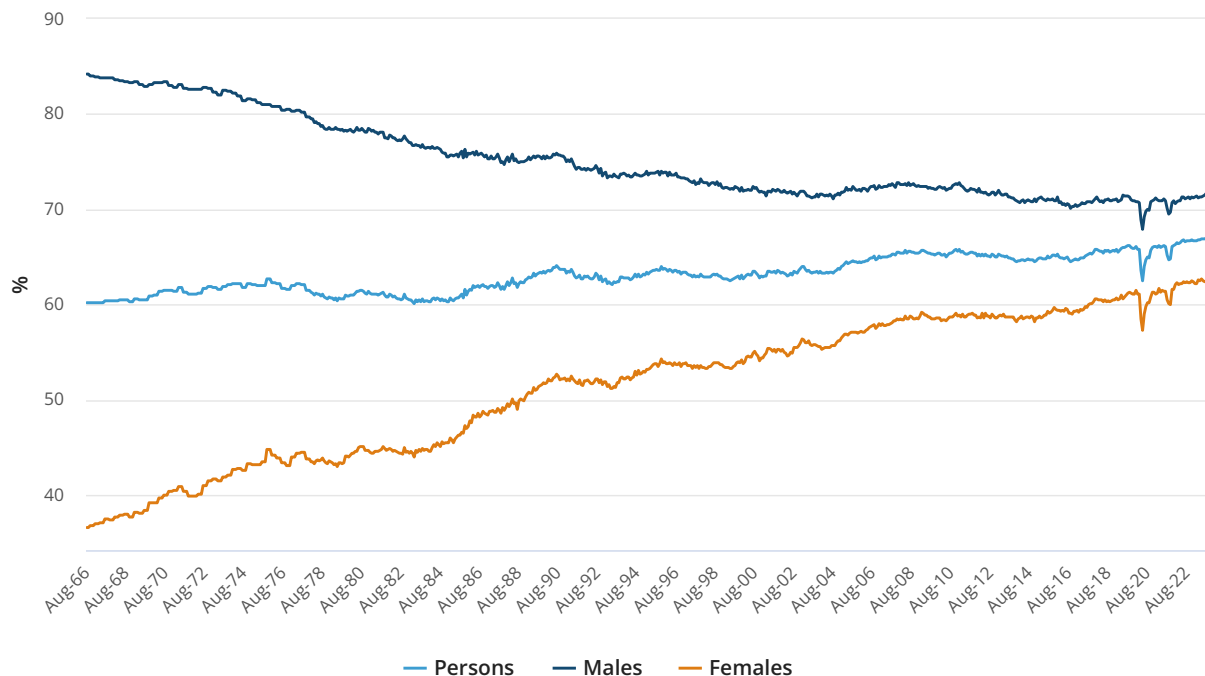
## Unemployed people, Australia, August 1966 to August 2023, Seasonally adjusted



February 1978 to August 2023 estimated monthly, before February 1978 estimated quarterly

Source: [6204.0.55.001 Labour Force Historical Timeseries, Australia, 1966-1984, Seasonally adjusted estimates of the labour force by sex and marital status - 1966-1977](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument>) and [6202.0 Labour Force, Australia, Table 1](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads) ([/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads)).

## Participation rate, Australia, August 1966 to August 2023, Seasonally adjusted



February 1978 to August 2023 estimated monthly, before February 1978 estimated quarterly

Source: [6204.0.55.001 Labour Force Historical Timeseries, Australia, 1966-1984, Seasonally adjusted estimates of the labour force by sex and marital status - 1966-1977](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument>) and [6202.0 Labour Force, Australia, Table 1](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads) ([/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads))

## Rotation group analysis

### Sample composition and rotation

The Labour Force Survey sample can be thought of as comprising eight sub-samples (rotation groups), with each sub-sample remaining in the survey for eight months, and one group "rotating out" each month and being replaced by a new group "rotating in". As seven-eighths of the sample are common from one month to the next, changes in the estimates

reflect real changes in the labour market, rather than changes in the sample. The replacement sample is generally selected from the same geographic areas as the outgoing one, as part of a representative sampling approach.

The sample comprises three components:

- the matched common sample (people who responded in both the current month and previous month)
- the unmatched common sample (people who responded in the current month but who did not respond in the previous month, or vice versa)
- the incoming rotation group (replacing people who rotated out)

The matched common sample describes the change observed for the same respondents in the current and previous month, while the other two components reflect differences between the aggregate labour force status of different groups of people.

While the rotation groups are designed to be representative of the population, the outgoing and incoming rotation groups will almost always have somewhat different characteristics, as they reflect different households and people. The design of the survey, including the weighting and estimation processes, ensures that these differences are generally relatively minor and do not affect the representativeness of the survey and its estimates. Monthly estimates are designed to be representative, regardless of the relative contribution of the three components of the sample.

The contributions of the three sample components to the original estimates of employed, unemployed and not in the labour force are in the Contribution from sample components to estimates spreadsheet.

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## Estimates for the incoming and outgoing rotation groups



## Incoming and outgoing rotation groups

|   | July outgoing<br>rotation<br>group | August<br>incoming<br>rotation group | August<br>outgoing<br>rotation group | August<br>estimate<br>(Original) |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Employment to<br>population ratio           | 64.5%                              | 62.7%                                | 64.3%                                | 64.2%                            |
| Full-time employment<br>to population ratio | 45.5%                              | 42.0%                                | 45.1%                                | 44.6%                            |
| Unemployment rate                           | 3.5%                               | 4.4%                                 | 3.4%                                 | 3.7%                             |
| Participation rate                          | 66.8%                              | 65.6%                                | 66.6%                                | 66.6%                            |

## States and Territories

In addition to analysis across the entire sample, the ABS also undertakes similar analysis for the responding sample in each state and territory each month, and highlights where there is a notable change for users to be aware of. For example, in August 2023, the incoming rotation group in Queensland had a lower participation rate and lower employment to population ratio than the group it replaced. As with any notable month-to-month movement of this nature in state and territory estimates, the ABS recommends exercising a degree of caution in interpreting short-term changes.

As for its reporting for the entire sample, where the ABS has not highlighted a notable incoming rotation group effect, any larger changes should therefore be considered to reflect a broader change across the sample.

## Comparability with seasonally adjusted and trend data

The gross flows and rotation group data are in original terms only, and are included to provide additional information on the month-to-month movements. They have a considerable level of inherent sampling variability, which is specifically adjusted for in the trend and seasonally adjusted series. The trend data provides the best measure of the underlying behaviour of the labour market and is the focus of the commentary in this publication.

## Contribution from sample components to estimates

[↓ Download XLSX](#)  
[42.23 KB]

## Data downloads

Labour Force Survey results are released in three stages.

1. Spreadsheets of the headline indicators are published in this release
2. Additional, more detailed spreadsheets and pivot tables are published in [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release\)](/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release) one week after this first release
3. Longitudinal labour force microdata are released in the ABS DataLab on a monthly basis, one day after the detailed release (see [Microdata: Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia))

See the [Survey output \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023#survey-output\)](/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/aug-2023#survey-output) section of Labour Force, Australia methodology for more information.

## Labour Force status

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Table 1. Labour force status by Sex, Australia - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[712.48 KB]

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Table 4. Labour force status by Sex, New South Wales - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[527.53 KB]

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Table 5. Labour force status by Sex, Victoria - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[527.14 KB]

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Table 6. Labour force status by Sex, Queensland - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[529.15 KB]

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Table 7. Labour force status by Sex, South Australia - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[523.09 KB]

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Table 8. Labour force status by Sex, Western Australia - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[526.54 KB]

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Table 9. Labour force status by Sex, Tasmania - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[525.55 KB]

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Table 10. Labour force status by Sex, Northern Territory - Trend and Original

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[476.86 KB]

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Table 10a. Labour force status by Sex, Northern Territory - Seasonally adjusted

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[163.71 KB]

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Table 11. Labour force status by Sex, Australian Capital Territory - Trend and Original

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[431.38 KB]

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Table 11a. Labour force status by Sex, Australian Capital Territory - Seasonally adjusted

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[163.97 KB]

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Table 12. Labour force status by Sex, State and Territory - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[4.35 MB]

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Table 12a. Labour force status by Sex, Territory - Seasonally adjusted

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[280.4 KB]

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Table 13. Labour force status for 15-24 year olds by Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[697.6 KB]

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Table 15. Labour force status for 15-24 year olds by Educational attendance (full-time) and Sex

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[785.68 KB]

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Table 16. Labour force status for 15-24 year olds by State, Territory and

## Educational attendance (full-time)

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[2.41 MB]

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Table 17. Labour force status for 15-19 year olds by Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[590.95 KB]

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Table 18. Labour force status for 15-64 year olds by Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

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[708.5 KB]

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## Hours worked

Table 19. Monthly hours worked in all jobs by Employed full-time, part-time and Sex and by State and Territory - Trend and Seasonally adjusted

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[259.03 KB]

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Table 19a. Monthly hours worked in all jobs by Employed full-time, part-time and Sex and Territory - Seasonally adjusted

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[60.89 KB]

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Table 21. Quarterly hours worked in all jobs by Market and Non-market sector - Seasonally adjusted

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[57.59 KB]

---

EM2a - Employed persons who worked fewer hours than usual by hours actually worked in all jobs and sex, January 1991 onwards (pivot table)

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[18.61 MB]

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EM2b - Employed persons who worked fewer hours than usual by hours actually worked in all jobs, state and territory, January 1991 onwards (pivot table)

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[8.66 MB]

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## Underemployment and underutilisation

Table 22. Underutilised persons by Age and Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

[!\[\]\(f4912148590488019602cab6e009e597\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download XLSX\*\*](#)  
[\[4.85 MB\]](#)

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Table 23. Underutilised persons by State and Territory and Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

[!\[\]\(2e897e890e69d81eae4503a8342c36b0\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download XLSX\*\*](#)  
[\[5.93 MB\]](#)

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Table 23a. Underutilised persons by Territory and Sex - Seasonally adjusted

[!\[\]\(e2376d476d06eb31946dc01a69a4403a\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download XLSX\*\*](#)  
[\[404.96 KB\]](#)

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Table 24. Underutilised persons by Age and Sex (expanded analytical series)

[!\[\]\(0aff635c4179ba9e710b00f4b01d3b20\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download XLSX\*\*](#)  
[\[472.44 KB\]](#)

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Table 25. Underutilised persons by State, Territory and Sex (expanded analytical series)

[!\[\]\(0b5e7e25e8775f7e7e80906ada4f0021\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download XLSX\*\*](#)  
[\[390.17 KB\]](#)

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## Flows into and out of employment

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GM1 - Labour force status and Gross changes (flows) by Age, Sex, State and Territory, September 2003 to August 2023

[!\[\]\(47734e4656765d20df4fdbd5b7aff048\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download XLSX\*\*](#)  
[\[96.61 MB\]](#)

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GM1 - Labour force status and Gross changes (flows) by Age, Sex, State and Territory, Historical (from February 1991)

[!\[\]\(0fb13ad0bfa3d86868cdd3883e5665b3\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download XLSX\*\*](#)  
[\[97.38 MB\]](#)

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## All time series spreadsheets

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All time series spreadsheets

[!\[\]\(7bc43b319a082987e20f7bf78f4bab80\_img.jpg\) \*\*Download ZIP\*\*](#)  
[\[26.52 MB\]](#)

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## Data Explorer datasets

Caution: Data in the Data Explorer is currently released after the 11:30am release on the ABS website. Please check the time period when using Data Explorer.

For information on Data Explorer and how it works, see the [Data Explorer user guide \(/about/data-services/data-explorer/data-explorer-user-guide\)](#).

[Labour Force status by Sex, State and Territory \(https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?tm=labour%20force&pg=0&df\[ds\]=ABS\\_ABS\\_TOPICS&df\[id\]=LF&df\[ag\]=ABS&df\[vs\]=1.0.0&hc\[Measure\]=Labour%20Force&hc\[ABS%20Topics\]=LABOUR&pd=2021-01%2C&dq=M9.3.1599.30%2B10%2B20.AUS.M&ly\[cl\]=TIME\\_PERIOD&ly\[rw\]=TSEST\)](https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?tm=labour%20force&pg=0&df[ds]=ABS_ABS_TOPICS&df[id]=LF&df[ag]=ABS&df[vs]=1.0.0&hc[Measure]=Labour%20Force&hc[ABS%20Topics]=LABOUR&pd=2021-01%2C&dq=M9.3.1599.30%2B10%2B20.AUS.M&ly[cl]=TIME_PERIOD&ly[rw]=TSEST) - Number of people employed, unemployed and not in the labour force, monthly, February 1978 and onwards.

[Labour Force monthly hours worked by Sex, State and Territory \(https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?fs\[0\]=Labour%2C0%7CEmployment%20and%20unemployment%23EMPLOYMENT\\_UNEMPLOYMENT%23&pg=0&fc=Labour&df\[ds\]=LABOUR\\_TOPICS&df\[id\]=LF\\_HOURS&df\[ag\]=ABS&df\[vs\]=1.0.0&pd=1978-07%2C&dq=.3.1599...1%2B2%2B3%2B4%2B5%2B6%2B7%2B8%2BAUS.M&ly\[cl\]=TIME\\_PERIOD&ly\[rw\]=MEASURE\)](https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?fs[0]=Labour%2C0%7CEmployment%20and%20unemployment%23EMPLOYMENT_UNEMPLOYMENT%23&pg=0&fc=Labour&df[ds]=LABOUR_TOPICS&df[id]=LF_HOURS&df[ag]=ABS&df[vs]=1.0.0&pd=1978-07%2C&dq=.3.1599...1%2B2%2B3%2B4%2B5%2B6%2B7%2B8%2BAUS.M&ly[cl]=TIME_PERIOD&ly[rw]=MEASURE) - Monthly hours worked by employed people, monthly, July 1978 and onwards.

[Labour Force status by Age Groups \(https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?tm=LF\\_AGES&pg=0&df\[ds\]=LABOUR\\_TOPICS&df\[id\]=LF\\_AGES&df\[ag\]=ABS&df\[vs\]=\)](https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?tm=LF_AGES&pg=0&df[ds]=LABOUR_TOPICS&df[id]=LF_AGES&df[ag]=ABS&df[vs]=) - Number of people employed, unemployed and not in the labour force, monthly, February 1978 and onwards.

## Article archive

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### Understanding the labour force

[Historical charts from August 1966 to February 2023 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-february-2023\)](#) (February 2023)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to January 2023 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-january-2023\)](#) (January 2023)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to December 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-december-2022\)](#) (December 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to November 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-](#)

[august-1966-november-2022](#))(November 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to October 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-october-2022\)](#))(October 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to September 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-september-2022\)](#))(September 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to August 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-august-2022\)](#))(August 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to July 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-july-2022\)](#))(July 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to June 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-june-2022\)](#))(June 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to May 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-may-2022\)](#))(May 2022)

[Historical charts from August 1966 to April 2022 \(/articles/historical-charts-august-1966-april-2022\)](#))(April 2022)

[Historical charts from 1966 \(/articles/historical-charts-1966\)](#))(March 2022)

[Understanding full-time and part-time work \(/articles/understanding-full-time-and-part-time-work\)](#))(January 2021)

[Understanding differences between Labour Force employment statistics and Weekly Payroll Jobs \(/articles/understanding-differences-between-labour-force-employment-statistics-and-weekly-payroll-jobs\)](#))(April 2020)

[Classifying people during the COVID-19 period \(/articles/classifying-people-labour-force-survey-during-covid-19-period\)](#))(March 2020)

[Labour Force Explained \(https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/labour+force+explained\)](#) (September 2017)

[Understanding the Australian labour force using ABS statistics \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features999Dec%202013\)](#) (December 2013)

[Understanding full-time / part-time status in the Labour Force Survey \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features4Sep%202013\)](#) (September 2013)

[Employment level estimates versus employment to population ratio explained \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features2Jan%202012\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features2Jan%202012)  
(January 2012)

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## Employment and jobs

[Charts on casual employment, occupation, industry and job mobility \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-industry-and-job-mobility-may-2023\)](#) (May 2023)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation, industry and job mobility \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-industry-and-job-mobility-february-2023\)](#) (February 2023)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation, industry and job mobility \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-industry-and-job-mobility-november-2022\)](#) (November 2022)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation, industry and job mobility \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-industry-and-job-mobility-august-2022\)](#) (August 2022)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation and industry \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-and-industry-may-2022\)](#) (May 2022)

[Insights into job mobility from quarterly Labour Force Statistics \(/articles/insights-job-mobility-quarterly-labour-force-statistics-february-2022\)](#) (February 2022)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation and industry \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-and-industry-february-2022\)](#) (February 2022)

[Insights into job mobility from quarterly Labour Force statistics \(/articles/insights-job-mobility-quarterly-labour-force-statistics\)](#) (December 2021)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation and industry \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-and-industry-november-2021\)](#) (November 2021)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation and industry \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-and-industry-august-2021\)](#) (August 2021)

[Charts on casual employment, occupation and industry \(/articles/charts-casual-employment-occupation-and-industry\)](#) (May 2021)

[Changing female employment over time \(/articles/changing-female-employment-over-time\)](#)  
(February 2021)

[Insights into casual employment, occupation and industry \(/articles/insights-casual-employment-occupation-and-industry\)](#) (November 2020)



[Strong employment growth for non-employees \(/articles/strong-employment-growth-non-employees\)](/articles/strong-employment-growth-non-employees) (August 2020)

[State and territory employment and hours worked \(/articles/state-and-territory-employment-and-hours-worked\)](/articles/state-and-territory-employment-and-hours-worked) (August 2020)

[Employment and unemployment: An International Perspective \(/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective\)](/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective) (August 2020)

[Flows into and out of employment and unemployment \(/articles/flows-and-out-employment-and-unemployment\)](/articles/flows-and-out-employment-and-unemployment) (June 2020)

[Insights into industry and occupation \(/articles/insights-industry-and-occupation\)](/articles/insights-industry-and-occupation) (May 2020)

[Employment and unemployment: An international perspective \(/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-may-2020\)](/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-may-2020) (May 2020)

[Employment and unemployment: An international perspective \(/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-april-2020\)](/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-april-2020) (April 2020)

[People moving into or out of employment or unemployment every month \(/articles/people-moving-or-out-employment-or-unemployment-every-month\)](/articles/people-moving-or-out-employment-or-unemployment-every-month) (March 2020)

[How many people work one hour a week \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features3Jan%202019\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features3Jan%202019) (January 2019)

[Leave entitlements \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features6Nov%202015\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features6Nov%202015) (November 2015)

[Duration of employment \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features7Nov%202015\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features7Nov%202015) (November 2015)

[Sector of main job \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features10Nov%202015\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features10Nov%202015) (November 2015)

[Estimating jobs in the Australian labour market \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features1100Feb%202013\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features1100Feb%202013) (February 2013)

[Employment in mining in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features2May%202012\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features2May%202012) (May 2012)

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## Unemployment and underemployment

[Insights into job attachment \(/articles/insights-job-attachment-january-2023\)](/articles/insights-job-attachment-january-2023) (January 2023)

[Insights into job attachment during the pandemic \(/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic-february-2022\)](/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic-february-2022) (February 2022)

[Insights into job attachment during the pandemic \(/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic-january-2022\)](/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic-january-2022) (January 2022)

[Insights into job attachment during the pandemic \(/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic-november-2021\)](/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic-november-2021) (November 2021)

[Insights into job attachment during the pandemic \(/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic\)](/articles/insights-job-attachment-during-pandemic) (October 2021)

[Underemployment: Reduced hours or prefers more hours \(/articles/underemployment-reduced-hours-or-prefers-more-hours\)](/articles/underemployment-reduced-hours-or-prefers-more-hours) (December 2020)

[Employment and unemployment: An International Perspective \(/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective\)](/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective) (August 2020)

[Understanding unemployment and the loss of work during the COVID-19 period: An Australian and international perspective \(/articles/understanding-unemployment-and-loss-work-during-covid-19-period-australian-and-international-perspective\)](/articles/understanding-unemployment-and-loss-work-during-covid-19-period-australian-and-international-perspective) (July 2020)

[Flows into and out of employment and unemployment \(/articles/flows-and-out-employment-and-unemployment\)](/articles/flows-and-out-employment-and-unemployment) (June 2020)

[Employment and unemployment: An International Perspective \(/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-june-2020\)](/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-june-2020) (June 2020)

[People who lost a job or were stood down: flows analysis \(/articles/people-who-lost-job-or-were-stood-down-flows-analysis-may-2020\)](/articles/people-who-lost-job-or-were-stood-down-flows-analysis-may-2020) (May 2020)

[Employment and unemployment: An international perspective \(/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-may-2020\)](/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-may-2020) (May 2020)

[Hours not worked - Hours-based measures of unemployment and underemployment \(/articles/hours-not-worked-hours-based-measures-unemployment-and-underemployment\)](/articles/hours-not-worked-hours-based-measures-unemployment-and-underemployment) (May 2020)

[People who lost a job or were stood down: Flows analysis \(/articles/people-who-lost-job-or-were-stood-down-flows-analysis-april-2020\)](/articles/people-who-lost-job-or-were-stood-down-flows-analysis-april-2020) (April 2020)

[Reasons people are not in the labour force \(/articles/reasons-people-are-not-labour-force\)](/articles/reasons-people-are-not-labour-force)

(April 2020)

[Employment and unemployment: An international perspective \(/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-april-2020\)](/articles/employment-and-unemployment-international-perspective-april-2020) (April 2020)

[Underemployment in Australia \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0main+features10September%202018\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0main+features10September%202018) (September 2018)

[Spotlight on underemployment \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features5Nov%202016\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features5Nov%202016) (November 2016)

[Measures of underemployment and underutilisation \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6202.0Main%20Features5Nov%202015\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6202.0Main%20Features5Nov%202015) (November 2015)

[Full-time and part-time job search \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.001Main%20Features6Nov%202015\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.001Main%20Features6Nov%202015) (November 2015)

[Hours-based measures of unemployment and underemployment \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features8Nov%202015\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features8Nov%202015) (November 2015)

[Retrenchment \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features9Nov%202015\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6291.0.55.003Main%20Features9Nov%202015) (November 2015)

[Did you know - Underemployment \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features4Jun%202013\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features4Jun%202013) (June 2013)

[Exploring labour force data on joblessness \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features2Feb%202012\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main%20Features2Feb%202012) (February 2012)

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## Hours worked

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[Insights into hours worked \(/articles/insights-hours-worked-march-2023\)](/articles/insights-hours-worked-march-2023) (March 2023)

[Insights into hours worked \(/articles/insights-hours-worked-february-2023\)](/articles/insights-hours-worked-february-2023) (February 2023)

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[Insight into hours worked \(/articles/insights-hours-worked-april-2022\)](/articles/insights-hours-worked-april-2022) (April 2022)

[Insights into hours worked \(/articles/insights-hours-worked-march-2022\)](/articles/insights-hours-worked-march-2022) (March 2022)

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## Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6202.0.

## Methodology

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